



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MICHAEL J. JANGULA
Title: SYRINGE NEEDLE DE-CAPPING AND RE-CAPPING DEVICE
Serial No: 10/770,255
Filing Date: FEBRUARY 2, 2004
Group Art Unit: 3763
Attorney Docket No: JANM 101
Date: May 3, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

In compliance with Applicant's and his attorney's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, the Applicant does hereby submit the following Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO - 1449, and copies of the references listed thereon.

A patent search was manually conducted for the invention described in the above-referenced patent application. In the course of the search, no patents were found for an apparatus that has the same structural features or that operates in the same manner such as the invention listed above. The following seven (7) patents, however, were noted as being of interest and are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention as references AA - AG. The significance of each listed reference is as follows:

1 AA. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,927,351 (Zhu et al.) discloses an improved
2 drawing station system for handling radioactive material for use in syringes in the health care
3 industry. The system includes a drawing station, a syringe shield and two different radio-
4 pharmaceutical pigs. The drawing station has a base with a support and two arms mounted
5 thereto to support a first radio-pharmaceutical pig enclosing a container of radioactive
6 material. The radio-pharmaceutical pig is releasably mounted to the second arm so that the
7 radio-pharmaceutical pig is pivotable about two predetermined axes to position the container
8 for penetration by the syringe needle to draw radioactive material from the container into the
9 syringe.

10 AB. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,607,403 (Kretzschmar et al.) discloses a new
11 disposable needle cap holder for safe, one-handed recapping of hypodermic syringe needles is
12 disclosed. The needle cap holder is a generally rectangular solid having a back face with an
13 adhesive surface so that the solid can be attached to a horizontal or vertical surface, such as a
14 table, cart or wall. A front face on the solid has an opening for a bore that extends through the
15 solid toward the back face. The bore is sized to hold a needle cap. A bulls-eye ring surrounds
16 the bore opening. The back face is at an acute angle to the front face. To use, the back face is
17 attached to a flat surface and a needle cap inserted into the bore. Using the bulls-eye ring as a
18 guide, a healthcare worker inserts a needle into the held needle cap until it snaps into place.
19 The needle cap holder can be made of any lightweight disposable plastic material.

20 AC. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,334,151 (Santilli) discloses a device for capping
21 and uncapping a hypodermic needle includes a body portion having an opening therein
22 through, which the cap of a hypodermic needle may be inserted and removed. The body

1 portion has a base that can be attached to a surface by an adhesive layer or by hook and loop
2 fasteners. The body portion includes a conical helix having screw threads that engage the end
3 of the cap upon rotation of the cap therein. Because the cap is mechanically secured by the
4 helix, the needle can be removed or inserted into the cap while the cap is retained in place.
5 The body portion is made of an inexpensive, resilient foam material.

6 AD. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,078,695 (Farrar, Jr. et al.) discloses a needle cap
7 holder of a syringe. It is of compressible material, such as rubber, having a central portion
8 tapered inwardly from the top and bottom. It has a central, vertical cylindrical opening for
9 receiving a needle cap of the syringe. It has a concave bottom portion.

10 AE. Reference U.S. Patent No. . 4,892,525 (Hermann, Jr. et al.) discloses the
11 present invention relates to improvements in conventional protection barrel and cap
12 packaging for hypodermic needles, whereby a structural guard is provided to encourage a
13 user's fingers to locate directly behind the guard, and around the outer surface of an opening
14 into the protected barrel. A person inserting a needle into a barrel automatically seeks to
15 grasp the barrel proximate its open end, to avoid yawing of the barrel during the manipulative
16 process. The present invention facilitates holding of a barrel proximate the opening, while
17 providing, as an extension therefrom, a needle entrance guide means which extends axially
18 and laterally therefrom. The laterally expanded barrel opening defines a transition ramp
19 surface into the barrel open end. Accordingly, the present invention ensures that the needle
20 will be guided into the barrel open end and towards the barrel closed end, even if the needle
21 insertion step included an initial lateral misalignment, off the axial centerline of the barrel
22 cap which extends the guard protections of the barrel needle barrel protector, through a cap

1 which comprises an extending boss from the exterior surface of the cap, so that both needles
2 will be guided away from accidental, manipulative stabbing. A fourth object of the present
3 invention is to provide a protective barrel and extended cap packaging for enclosing a
4 hypodermic needle and syringe assembly, wherein a disposable axially extending housing can
5 be discarded, leaving a protective needle barrel to offer protection to the user, when
6 reinserting only the barrel onto the needle.

7 AF. Reference U.S. Patent No. 4,836,373 (Goldman) discloses a device for
8 handling a hypodermic syringe and a cover, therefore has a base, a tubular body projecting
9 from the base and having an open end for receiving a syringe cover and frictionally engaging
10 the same. The device also has a mechanism for breaking the frictional engagement. The base
11 has a piece of material one side of which adhesively engages the base. The other side of the
12 piece of material has pressure sensitive material, so that the device is mountable on a plane
13 surface. Only one hand is needed to operate the device, and a plurality of the devices can
14 readily be arranged in an array in close proximity to each other.

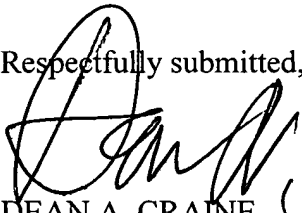
15 AG. Reference U.S. Patent No. 4,393,864 (Galkin et al.) discloses the present
16 invention relates to syringe loading shields for use with syringes during the drawing of
17 aliquots of radioactive materials from shielded vials containing same. Each syringe loading
18 shield is provided with means for shielding radiation emanating from the mouth of the vial
19 during the material-withdrawal, syringe loading process. In a preferred embodiment, the
20 syringe loading shield comprises a radiation detector for detecting and calibrating the
21 radioactive dosage of the material which is drawn into the syringe barrel. In the preferred
22 embodiment, a substantially tubular shield having a high density viewing window recessed

1 therein is disclosed which is comprised of a plurality of sheaths. A novel hand shield and
2 syringe for use with radioactive materials are also disclosed.

3 The Applicant and his attorney submit that the above-cited references taken alone or
4 in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. None of the
5 references disclose or claim a syringe needle de-capping and re-capping device, comprising
6 a cylindrical shaped body with longitudinally aligned cavity formed therein, said body
7 including a finger gripping section, a removable cap selectively attachable to said body, said
8 cap including an inward extending aligned neck , a bushing longitudinally aligned and
9 located inside said cavity, said bushing including a cylindrical shaped void area capable of
10 receiving said neck on said removable cap, said bushing includes a stop surface formed inside
11 said void area, and a spring nut located inside said void area of said bushing, said spring nut
12 including a center bore that engages the tip of a needle cap with inserted therein.

13 The listed references relate only to the general field of the disclosure and do not
14 constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims; they are
15 cited only as constituting the closest art of which the Applicant and his attorney are aware.

16
17 Respectfully submitted,

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19 DEAN A. CRAINE

20 Reg. No. 33,591
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)Applicant(s): **MICHAEL J. JANGULA****MAY 06 2004**

Docket No.

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Serial No.

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FEBRUARY 2, 2004

Examiner

Group Art Unit

3763

Invention:

SYRINGE NEEDLE DE-CAPPING AND RE-CAPPING DEVICEI hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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on **MAY 4, 2004***(Date)***DEAN A. CRAINE***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)**(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)***Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) JANM 101		Application Number 10/770,255	
				Applicant(s) MICHAEL J. JANGULA			
				Filing Date FEBRUARY 2, 2004		Group Art Unit 3763	

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 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,927,351	07/27/1999	ZHU ET AL.	141	330	05/30/1997
	AB.	5,607,403	03/04/1997	KRETZSCHMAR ET AL.	604	263	04/05/1996
	AC.	5,334,151	08/02/1994	SANTILLI	604	192	05/03/1993
	AD.	5,078,695	01/07/1992	FARRAR, JR. ET AL.	604	192	05/14/1990
	AE.	4,892,525	01/09/1990	HERMANN, JR. ET AL.	604	263	01/18/1984
	AF.	4,836,373	06/06/1989	GOLDMAN	206	366	10/03/1988
	AG.	4,393,864	07/19/1983	GALKIN ET AL.	128	1.1	04/27/1981

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.